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MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT SAN DIEGO

AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION

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Recruits take on the Tough One, which is one of several challenging obstacles here. Cpl. Dorian Gardner/Chevron

## Recruits tough it out

BY LANCE CPL. KAITLYN M. SCARBORO  
Chevron staff

As the two-story, escape-rope loomed over them from the other side of a 20-foot rope-climb and a towering platform of balancing-logs, recruits of Platoon 2002, Company H, ran in place, staring at the ominous contraption in front of them.

The Tough One is an obstacle designed to help recruits build confidence through the realization of physical ability and the possibility of triumph over a fear of heights. During the fourth week of training, Co. H recruits tackled several such obstacles while

completeing the confidence course, a series of frightening, tall creations designed to teach recruits self-belief.

"It gives them confidence in their physical abilities," said Capt. Stuart W. Glenn, commanding officer, Co. H. "A lot of them probably couldn't have done this before they got to recruit training, and here it is, three weeks of training and they are climbing a 40-foot rope and then climbing down the rope. It just teaches them, through proper technique and instruction, they can overcome their fear."

After demonstrations from two of the company's drill instructors and an explanation

SEE **Tough**, pg. 2

## BRAVO ZULU!

### *Commanding general commends personnel for marathon efforts*

To the Marines and sailors and civilian Marines of MCRD San Diego,

As I walked the Depot watching the runners complete their long and arduous 26.2-mile trek, your professionalism and dedication were once again clearly demonstrated. This, the 9th annual San Diego Rock 'n' Roll Marathon, represented the 6th consecutive year this popular and successful race finished aboard our Depot. In supporting the finish line of this now much-anticipated San Diego event, the Depot hosted 17,757 competitors and another estimated 30,000 visitors who entered the gates of MCRD. They all benefited from and enjoyed our safe, clean and upbeat hospitality. More importantly, our efforts in support of the marathon helped to raise more than \$12 million for leukemia and lymphoma research.

The success of this year's race was a direct result of your thorough planning, rigorous training and rehearsals, and motivated race-day execution. Your combined efforts at gate security, bag screening, reaction platoons, medical support, road guards, traffic control, and command post duties, contributed personally and materially to the resounding success of the San Diego Rock 'n' Roll Marathon 2006. Your efforts also helped ensure that all runners and spectators not only enjoyed our hospitality, but left our scenic and historic base with a positive image of our Corps and our service.

I applaud your preparation and execution, and I commend you for once again displaying all that is best in our Depot, our Marine Corps, and our Nation. The respect and admiration of the local community is well-placed, hard-earned, and certainly well-deserved. Congratulations on a job well done and Semper Fidelis!

J. M. Paxton Jr.  
Brigadier General, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commanding General

## SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

BY LANCE CPL.  
KAITLYN M. SCARBORO  
Chevron staff

Free \$1,000 educational scholarships are available to depot personnel and dependents who apply with the depot's command museum before June 30.

Three Marines, sailors or dependents from the depot or Western Recruiting Region will be awarded the 2006 Colonel Nate Smith Scholarship by the depot commanding general during the command museum's Historical Society Quar-

terly Breakfast July 11.

Smith's family provided the funds for the scholarship after his death a few years ago, according to Barbara McCurtis, depot museum director. A plank holder of the depot's museum and a World War II and Korean War veteran, Smith worked in the archives section of the museum until his death.

To apply for the scholarship, students can pick up a packet from the museum or fill out an application online at the museum's historical society's Web site at [www.mcrdmuseumhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.mcrdmuseumhistoricalsociety.com).



### HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Read about the fathers who inspired some of the Corps' greatest heroes.

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### RECRUIT SPOTLIGHT

He was on his way to becoming an officer, but family history inspired him to enlist.

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Headquarters  
sinks its teeth  
into RTR

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**Tough, from pg. 1**  
from an Instructional Training Co. drill instructor, recruits attempt to climb a 20-foot rope to the top of a platform of separated logs. Balancing as they walk across the logs, the recruits will reach a ladder to climb. At the top of the ladder, recruits slide down a rope using techniques they have been taught to prevent injuries.

The recruits are building confidence in themselves that they will need to accomplish harder tasks scheduled later in training, according to Glenn.

Staff Sgt. Cole V. Walter, staff noncommissioned officer in charge, ITC, oversees the course. He said he believes the obstacles provide an opportunity for the recruits to experience something they are not used to doing.

“When they get to do something out of the norm, something out of their comfort zone, it builds confidence,” said Walter. “They succeeded at something they wouldn’t normally get the chance to do.”

For some recruits the opportunity is more unnerving than exciting.

“I’ve been on the top of my house before,” said Joey L. Eckert, a

Co. H recruit who feared the obstacle before attempting it. “But being on something that’s twice the height of a house in South Dakota is a little scary.”

Eckert was skeptical of his strength and ability to pull himself up the rope to the log platform. He hadn’t been able to climb ropes on previous attempts, and he had a mild fear of heights.

“Getting up the rope initially was challenging,” he said. “I stopped at the ladder, and I looked down, which wasn’t the right thing to do. The drill instructor walked over and gave me a pep talk.”

Many challenging evolutions are put into the recruit training schedule as opportunities for personal growth. Each obstacle is intended to build on a certain character trait, but in some cases a more valuable lesson is learned.

“For the recruits that are struggling, so long as they’re not giving up on themselves, that’s actually building their confidence,” said Glenn.

The Tough One taught most of Platoon 2002 not to be afraid of reaching the top and to have faith to push themselves past their limits. Soon they will continue their climb to success as United States Marines.

## Options available to combat high gas prices

BY LANCE CPL. KAITLYN M. SCARBORO  
*Chevron staff*

As gas prices across America steadily increase, depot personnel struggle to find ways to alleviate the strain on their wallets.

From Mass Transportation Incentive Programs and riding bicycles around the depot, to storing gas guzzling vehicles until the prices go down, depot Marines have taken a proactive stance against the price influx.

For Lance Cpl. Ignacio Lopez-Alonso, administrative clerk, recruit liaison section, the increasing gas prices drove his dream car straight into storage.

After struggling to find a 1970 Chevrolet Impala in well-working condition, it took only three to four months until gas prices rose so high, Lopez-Alonso said he could no longer spend \$80 a week to fill his 25 gallon tank.

Traditionally, Lopez-Alonso only drove his car around base and out to eat for lunch, but now his money won’t stretch from the barracks to his office for the gas in his car. He has put his Impala into storage and now drives his mother’s Ford Mustang at the cost of \$30 for a full tank every 10 days.

“I don’t plan on moving it too far,” said Lopez-Alonso of his Impala. “Maybe just from work to the barracks. It’s a downer, but whatever is the cheapest for gas.”

Depot employees are finding other means of affordable transportation during the unaffordable gas age. Through programs offered to active duty and Department of Defense personnel, commuters have found reasonable solutions to affordably get to work.

“Lately, I try to be a dedicated Coaster (train) rider because of the increase in prices,” said Brent F. Poser, depot Semper Parit director. “It’s nice to have a car to go places, but I drive a Jeep. The Coaster saves \$10 a day.”

Applying for MTIP is a simple process that may provide employees with up to a \$105 reimbursement for the personal finances they spend on community transportation, according to Gunnery Sgt. Gary E. Hernandez, staff noncommissioned officer in charge, finance office.

Vouchers provided by the program can be used for transit by the San Diego Trolley, the Amtrak, the coaster and leased vanpool vehicles used to pick up personnel living in a consolidated area, according to Hernandez.

Last year, Renaud R. Villedieu, depot athletics director, traded his Ford Excursion for a Honda Civic. Trading in a 44 gallon gas tank that took nearly \$130 to fill every 10 days, Villedieu now spends remarkably less to fill his 13 gallon tank just as often.

“About this time last year, I noticed gas prices beginning to rise,” said Villedieu. “With the Excursion, I got 10 miles to the gallon, but with the Honda Civic, I get 36 miles to the gallon.”

Villedieu purchased the Excursion for the protection of his four children, stating that a bigger car would provide a better chance of walking away from an accident unharmed.

Trading in his Excursion for a more fuel-efficient car first, Villedieu has now applied for the MTIP, expecting to save \$150 a month in gas costs and making his Civic available for his wife to use.

Leaving his car at home, Villedieu will ride the San Diego Trolley from his home in Santee, Calif., to the trolley station in Old Town, a mile and a half west of the depot.

A decrease in insurance costs, less wear and tear on his vehicle, a safer way to get to work and less stress from traffic were some of the benefits Villedieu said he expects to

SEE Gas, pg. 6

### BRIEFS

#### HRO positions available

The Depot’s Civil Service Human Resources Office is currently recruiting for the below positions. To be considered, applicants must be within the area of consideration and have their resume in the HRSC-SW “CHARTS” system for the series. The following link will guide applicants in submitting their resume:  
<http://www.donhr.navy.mil/Jobs/default.asp>. All positions are permanent unless otherwise specified.

#### Colonel Nate Smith Scholarship

The 2006 Colonel Nate Smith Scholarship Award Competition features three \$1,000 educational scholarships available to MCRD San Diego/WRR enlisted Marines, sailors and their dependents enrolled in an accredited graduate or undergraduate college program. Scholarships are available on line at the MCRD Museum Historical Society Web site: [www.mcrdmuseumhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.mcrdmuseumhistoricalsociety.org).

If you do not have online access, you may pick up an application at the museum in Day Hall during normal working hours. Deadline for applications is June 30. Winners will be presented their awards on Tuesday July 11, at the Historical Society Quarterly Breakfast with the depot commanding general. For additional information, please contact the Historical Society at 524-4426.

#### Marketing yourself for a second career

The Career Resource Management Center will sponsor “Marketing Yourself for a Second Career” Tuesday in Bldg. 14 at 9 a.m. This is a free, two and one-half hour professional lecture for officers and senior noncommissioned officers who plan to leave the service in the next one to five years. Spouses are cordially invited. Dress in appropriate civilian attire or military uniform of the day, and bring a pad and pencil for taking notes. Light refreshments will be provided.

Learn about your competition for finding a job, perceptions civilian employers have of military personnel, a plan for your job search, how employers read your resume, networking and penetrating the hidden job market, preparing for and conducting a successful interview, salary negotiations and benefit packages, and rejection.

For more information, contact (619)524-1283/5732.

#### Lost and found

The Provost Marshal’s Office Crime Prevention Unit has a large quantity of lost and found articles that have remained unclaimed for a period of more than 45 days. These items will be disposed of if the owner is not located. If you have recently misplaced any property, please contact Sgt. Shad L. Begley at (619) 524-4128.

#### SEND BRIEFS TO

[jess.levens@usmc.mil](mailto:jess.levens@usmc.mil). The Chevron staff reserves the right to publish only those briefs that comply with Department of Defense regulations and the standards of the U.S. Government.

Nearing a decade of mission accomplishment at the dental clinic, the Navy dental staff can’t wait to hit the 350-company mark.

# Recognizing, fixing roommate problems

BY SGT. ASHLEY UNFRIED  
*Chevron Staff*

Roommates. Can’t live with them, wish there was a way to live without them. Almost everyone has had to deal with an unpleasant roommate. Some have had to deal with multiple types of bad roommates.

There is the foul roommate, the loud roommate, the drama roommate, the cheap/ broke roommate, the cluttered roommate and the pretend roommate.

Though many more types exist in the world, these select few seem to be the most common.

First, the foul roommate. This type of roommate is commonly encountered in the early years of the Marine Corps or college.

He seems to lack the ability to bathe, do laundry, change his linens or move from one spot on the weekends, causing a rank odor to be emitted from his area of the living space.

This roommate is best dealt with while sleeping. Try throwing the massive pile of his laundry in the wash after he passes out for the evening. The linens can be washed in a helpful way. “Hey, I’m throwing my sheets in, mind if I grab yours to fill the load?”

As for the bathing, truck stops offer long armed brushes for scrubbing. Just grab a bucket, some antibacterial soap, and offer to play a new game called “Who Can Reach the Other from Across the Room?” Hope-

fully, enough contact will be made with the odorous roommate to scrape off some filth.

If all else fails, scented pine trees can be purchased from any convenience store and are easy to hang.

Next up is the loud roommate. This roommate seems to operate on a higher decibel level than other human beings. She insists that it’s okay to host parties into the wee hours of a Wednesday morning, her cell phone conversations can be heard from three buildings down, and she finds the only way she can wake up is by listening to the 1980’s rock ballad, “Livin’ on a Prayer,” at max volume.

The loud roommate is rather easy to deal with.

Investing in earplugs is by far the best way, and earplugs have multiple uses in everyday life. A few bogus ear infections can also buy some quiet time in your humble abode. The funniest way is to remove all volume knobs from sound emitting devices. The unsuspecting roommate will have no choice but to move the parties elsewhere due to a lack of music, and a few more minutes of shut eye for you in the morning doesn’t hurt either.

Third is the drama roommate. This roommate could be labeled the “handle with white gloves” roommate. Everything that happens to this individual is a life altering experience.

“So what if I was only dating that guy for two weeks? It was love!”

“He said he would call, but that was three weeks ago, so I called him every day to remind him to call me. Is that wrong?”

After putting some white gloves on, try to apply as much sympathy as humanly possible.

Start by watching all the sappy movies that can be rented. There’s no shame in shedding a few tears in the name of a good movie.

Next, move on to the “feel good foods.” Whatever can be found in the junk food aisle is fine.

And last, the most important step, rationalize. Help her to find out what is most important. Volunteer work can be humbling but greatly rewarding, giving the tragedy-ridden roommate the drive to pick up and move on.

Fourth, and possibly the worst, is the cheap/broke roommate.

This person never seems to have the cash to buy toilet paper, computer printer paper, macaroni and cheese or peanut butter. As young adults, first moving out on their own, simple things can be overlooked, like who used the last square of the two-ply made one ply roll of toilet paper.

The cheap roommate seems to always be the one reminding the other to buy more, even though she used the last of it, and the broke roommate simply can’t afford toilet paper.

After whining to friends and relatives about this roommate, buckle down and

address the issue head on. A budget tracker can help both roommates equally. While the tracker shows the frivolous roommate how to manage money and still have fun, penny-pinchers see hard proof of where their responsibilities are.

This also gives everyone involved a chance to feel like they have made a strong contribution to the quality of living, creating a relaxed environment for co-habitation.

Let’s we forget the cluttered roommate. Easily lumped into other categories, this roommate deserves his own special treatment.

A pack-rat through and through, this roommate can quickly hop on Mother Theresa’s last nerve with his habits.

Does the three-week old pizza box really add to the ambience? Do all the beer caps need to be placed into an old pickle jar as a shrine to the good days of youth?

Time to call the organization patrol. The cluttered roommate simply needs help with finding an outlet for their creativity. True, the party last weekend produced enough recyclables to feed the homeless downtown, but leaving remnants around is no way to hold on to the celebration.

Enter the fun world of scrap booking. By snapping a few shots from the previous night’s festivities, many years of memories can be saved to brightly colored paper adorned with stickers. Plus, the world of

SEE Roommates, pg. 6

## Father’s Day: Celebrating Corps heroes’ dads

BY JOANNA M. McDONALD

*MCRD Command Museum education specialist*

When we reflect on Marine Corps history we visualize such Corps leaders as Gen. Joseph Pendleton, father of our depot in San Diego, and many others, but who were their fathers, what did they do, and why do we care? Marine legends do not just spring full grown out of the ground; you don’t “just add water” to produce a great leader. Father’s Day approaches, so let us reflect upon 1) the fathers of some of these Marine legends; 2), why these particular Marines are considered fathers and legends to the Corps.

Here are some quick snapshots (with all due respect to our Marine heroes, and using a modern vernacular, “Who’s your daddy?”)

- Samuel Nicholas: Born 1744 in Philadelphia to Andrew and Mary Shute Nicholas. Andrew Nicholas was a successful Quaker blacksmith. Samuel Nicholas was first captain of the Marines in 1775. He successfully recruited and led the first Continental Marines and became the first commanding officer of the Marines (tasked with general supervision, as would be future commandants).

- Charles Grymes McCawley: Born in Philadelphia on Jan. 29, 1827. Charles followed in his father’s footsteps. James, his father, was a Marine captain (1820-1836). Charles McCawley rose to the rank of colonel and became the eighth Commandant on November 1, 1876. In 1883 he approved the Marine Corps motto, “Semper Fidelis.”

- Joseph Henry Pendleton (“Uncle Joe”): Born June 2, 1860, Rochester, Pennsylvania to Joseph Rhodes and Martha J. (Cross). Pendleton’s father was an officer on a whaling ship. As the colonel of the 4th Marines at San Diego, he and San Diego Congressman William Kettner worked to build a permanent home for the Marines who

were camped at Balboa Park. On Dec. 1, 1921, Gen. Joseph Pendleton and his Marines moved to their new base at Marine Corps Base San Diego.

- John Archer Lejeune: Born in 1867 in Louisiana to Ovide and Laura Archer Turpin. His father served as a Confederate captain with the 2nd Louisiana Regiment of Cavalry (Mr. Lejeune, however, voted against secession). After the war Ovide was bankrupt and worked on a sugar plantation for very little money. Lejeune’s father labored long hours and re-purchased the family home. John Lejeune was commissioned a second lieutenant on July 1, 1890. He is considered the father of numerous Marine Corps firsts – during World War I, with the rank of major general, he became the first Marine to command an Army division (2nd Division). On June 30, 1920, he became the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps.

- Howland McTyeire Smith: Howland was born on April 20, 1882. His parents were John V. and Cornelia McTyeire Smith. Howland’s father was a prominent lawyer in Seale, Ala. In fact, Howland Smith received a Bachelor’s Degree in law and practiced law for a year. He found that he disliked the field of law with a passion. At the outbreak of World War I, Smith joined the Marines after the Army turned him down (a decision which benefited the Marine Corps). Rising through the ranks, Smith, now a general on the eve of World War II, directed extensive amphibious warfare training with all the military branches. General Howland Smith was a pioneer in amphibious landing doctrine, and is considered to be the father of modern U.S. amphibious warfare.

- Matthew M. Puller and Martha Richardson Leigh celebrated the birth of their baby boy, Lewis Burwell “Chesty” Puller, on June 26, 1898. Matthew Puller was a moderately successful salesman even though he battled cancer, a battle he lost in 1908. Martha Puller, a very strong woman, raised four children on her own. In

1918, Lewis entered the United States Marine Corps. He served the Corps for 37 years, and is the only Marine to earn five Navy Crosses. During his career he would sign John Basilone’s promotional papers to the rank of sergeant.

- Renowned hero John Basilone, Medal of Honor recipient for his actions during the battle for Guadalcanal, had nine siblings. He was born Nov. 4, 1916, to Salvatore and Dora Basilone. Salvatore was born in Naples, Italy; he immigrated to America and started a very large family. In order to support his family, Salvatore worked as a tailor in Raritan, N.J.

- Edgar R. Huff, Jr. was born in 1920 in Gadsden, Ala., to Edgar R. Huff Sr. and Emily Lee Huff Gunn. Edgar R. Huff Sr. worked at a pipe shop in Attalla, Ala, until he joined the U.S. Army Signal Corps during World War I. He spoke fluent Creek American Native language and transcribed coded messages in Creek. Just prior to the war ending, Edgar Sr. died of wounds sustained by mustard gas. Young Huff was the only child, but he lived with his mother and both his grandparents. Edgar volunteered for the Marine Corps in 1942 and went through Montford Point Marine Camp in North Carolina. When Edgar entered into the Corps he stated, “I wanted to be a Marine because I had always heard the Marine Corps was the toughest ... and I felt that I was the toughest going.” Huff certainly proved his statement because he became the first African-American to earn the rank of sergeant major in the Marine Corps. He served in the Corps for 30 years.

When we read or hear about our leaders, let us not forget there is always a great example behind those we call our Fathers in the field.

“He didn’t tell me how to live; he lived, and let me watch him do it.” – a quote by Clarence Budington Kelland, author.



In this 2005 photo, Cmdr. Jerome McSwain performs oral surgery on a former Company M recruit. Cpl. Edward R. Guavara Jr./Chevron

BY CPL. DORIAN GARDNER  
*Chevron staff*

Keeping up with tradition, the depot Branch Dental Clinic continues to maintain its 95 percent readiness rate after hitting its 300 mark in June last year.

Thirty-eight companies later, the clinic staff has been able to hold the record and keep recruits graduating with pearly white smiles.

Keeping boot camp graduates ready for deployment is no easy task, said Petty Officer 2nd Class Angel Ferro, dental technician. On average, a company may have only 20 to 30 percent of its recruits at a Class 1 or 2 status upon their arrival, which means they need little or no dental work.

The other 70 percent may need moderate to major dental attention, but officers, enlisted staff and contractors take care of their problems. Much of the work needed to get recruits into the top two dental ratings simply consists of fillings, route canals and removing wisdom teeth. Because Marines are unable to deploy with a Class 3 dental rating, staff members ensure recruits graduate

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Cpl. Jeffrey Tang, clerk, Traffic Management Office, plays push ball against Cpl. Christopher J. Hale, armory technician.

# Service, meet Headquarters

BY SGT. ASHLEY UNFRIED  
*Chevron Staff*

Last Friday afternoon, Marines from Headquarters and Service Battalion escaped the dreary confines of their offices and participated in a field meet at the boathouse here.

The field meet, which included events such as basketball, football, volleyball, soccer, an egg toss and a tug of war was held in place of the expected battalion formation run.

Marines also participated in other events like the push-up relay, the stretcher relay and a four-man push-up contest, where Marines intertwined themselves in a square to perform as many group push-ups as possible.

The gathering gave the battalion commanding officer, Col. Matthew D. Redfern, a chance to commend the Marines for a job well done during the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon, said Gunnery Sgt. Adebola Osinowo, Headquarters Company gunnery sergeant.

It also gave Redfern a chance to speak with the Marines before they were dismissed for the extended weekend, said Osinowo.

Private First Class Robert E. Fairbank, finance clerk, said he felt it was a good way to build camaraderie through healthy competition.

"My favorite event was the stretcher relay," said Sgt. Carlos N. Durant, assistant training noncommissioned officer, Service Co. "It was fun to see the Marines working together."

Fairbank and Durant both felt the field meet was a positive switch from the usual battalion formation run.

"We chose challenging yet fun events for the Marines," said Osinowo.

"The intent was for the Marines to have fun," said Osinowo. "I believe the field meet will happen again in the future due to the tremendous success."

Overall standings of all events didn't seem to matter to the Marines.

"Everybody won," said Osinowo. "It was for the Marines."



From left to right, Staff Sgt. Brian D. Bacon, Cpl. Harvey J. Vinklerek II, Sgt. Carlos N. Durant and Sgt. Felix A. Ferrin carry a Marine across the finish line in the stretcher relay at the Headquarters and Service Battalion field meet. *Plc. Charlie Chavez/Chevron photos*



Lance Cpl. Reginald D. Page, Pfc. Clinton Dixon, Lance Cpl. Rene Smith and Cpl. Jeffrey Tang compete in four-man push-ups.



Lance Cpl. Katherine T. Jenovese and Cpl. Paul S. Miller paddle down the home stretch of the kayak relay race.





Pfc. Chad J. Johnston, Platoon 2090, Company F, serves his platoon as one of four squad leaders. Sgt. Ashley Unfried/Chevron

RECRUIT SPOTLIGHT

IN HIS BLOOD

Co. F Marine left college to serve in infantry with friends

BY PFC. CHARLIE CHAVEZ  
Chevron staff

Students involved in military officer courses during college typically end their degrees with a commissioning, but for one Company F recruit, his first stop was the enlisted ranks of the Marine Corps.

A native of Liberty, Mo., Pfc. Chad J. Johnston, Platoon 2090, attended Missouri State College for a double major in Spanish and criminology while completing the first six weeks of Officer Candidate School.

His original intent was to follow his great uncle, who was a Marine Corps pilot during WWII and Korea. His uncle was highly awarded and recognized with accommodations for bravery and conspicuous gallantry, said Johnston, who received his civilian private pilot license in 2001.

After completing the first six weeks of Officer Candidate School, Johnston dropped out of college to pursue a career with the United Parcel Service Air Division as a lead ramp supervisor.

Unexpectedly, Johnston’s long-time girlfriend was offered a job overseas. He made the decision to separate and stay in America and pursued his long-delayed pact with friends to join the Marine Corps infantry.

“I have two friends that have been to three tours in Iraq,” said Johnston. “We had originally decided we were going to join together. Now I want be in the infantry and fulfill my end of the bargain.”

The Marine Corps infantry appealed to Johnston,

who said he wanted to join the best service. His devotion to serve his country derived from the long-standing traditions in his family and the military, according to Johnston.

“He never met any of his great uncles, and his grandfather passed away when he was younger,” said Rick Johnston, father. “We told him more about them and what they did as he grew. He just got more intrigued by the military.”

Johnston left for boot camp in early March and graduates today after completing three months of challenging recruit training. His drill instructors said Johnston represented himself as an outstanding Marine and is one of his platoon’s four squad leaders.

“He was always moving fast, being loud and was always motivated,” said Staff Sgt. Oliver P. Schiess, drill instructor, Platoon 2090. “He was always setting the example for other recruits to (follow). With college experience, it helped him to be wiser and more mature. He effectively led his peers to success during the Crucible despite the fatigue, hunger and grimy conditions.”

The overall task of becoming a Marine is something that Johnston relished and welcomed, despite the hardships. Johnston said the fact that he is older and more experienced than most has made training more challenging at times.

Finished with his training on the depot, Johnston said he looks forward to joining the Marines Corps infantry in the War on Terror and carrying out his family’s legacy.

Retired Sgt. Maj. Jon R. Cavaiani

PARADE REVIEWING OFFICER

Jon R. Cavaiani was born in Murphys, Ireland, and sent to England in 1943. He came to the United States in 1947 and in 1953 moved to the small farming community of Ballico, Calif., to be with his stepfather, Ugo Cavaiani. In 1961, Ugo formally adopted Jon and in 1968, Jon became a naturalized citizen of the United States.

Cavaiani joined the U.S. Army in 1969. He volunteered for Special Forces where he spent the next 17 years. Cavaiani was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions while a platoon

leader on an isolated radio relay site deep in enemy territory. Cavaiani was serving with the studies and observations group, an elite reconnaissance unit, when he was written up for the Medal of Honor for his actions on June 4 and 5, 1971, in Vietnam. Eleven days after this action, wounded and still trying to evade the enemy, Cavaiani was captured and spent the next 23 months as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam.

His other assignments included tours in the Middle East, South America, Europe and southeast Asia. Jon spent three years in Berlin, Germany, as the senior operations sergeant major for British, French and U.S. forces. He was selected and assigned to the United States’ most elite counter-terrorist force, commonly

referred to as Delta Force.

Upon retiring, Cavaiani has made time available to serve as the 6th region director of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. Cavaiani recently graduated with honors from the Culinary Arts Program in Columbia, Calif., where he and his wife Barbara live. Cavaiani has three grandsons and two granddaughters.

Among his numerous awards and decorations are the nation’s highest award for valor, the Army Medal of Honor; the Legion of Valor, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with combat “V,” and the Purple Heart with oak leaf clusters. Cavaiani was a freefall and static line jumpmaster and has more than 5,000 jumps all over the world.



Roommates, from pg. 3

scrap booking comes complete with fun carrying totes so the untidy roommate can learn to organize in pastel, bold or standard colors.

Finally, we have the pretend roommate.

It’s safe to say almost everyone has encountered this roommate. They are the bums on the couch from the party two nights ago, the freeloaders who help themselves to whatever is left in the cupboards, and the ones who beat all legal occupants of the house home from work.

The pretend roommate enjoys the atmosphere of the establishment, but slides

out the door when the fun is really over. Like when it’s time to clean, or grocery shop or even replace the nagging brown tube of an empty toilet paper roll. The pretend roommate is not a “handle with white gloves” kind of person.

If a suspected friend has overstayed his welcome by a few months, draft a bill of the services provided while he has enjoyed his stay. Make sure to annotate internet time, cable time, toilet paper used and food consumed. Leave the professional looking document on the sponger’s forehead before departing for work. Include specific instructions on methods of payment so he

can easily repay his debt. A mint on the inside of the bill is always a good gesture. Surely the pretend roommate will get the hint and vacate the premises, but if he still doesn’t get it, change the locks, move or assume an alias.

It is time now to praise the perfect roommate.

Never late with bills, always willing to make a midnight run for toilet paper and taking turns with tidying, this roommate is a dream. Many have yearned for such a joy, but few have really found that one soul that embodies such flawlessness. Sure, there have been some close

calls, but has there ever been that one, golden roommate?

Through my experiences in and out of the Corps, the perfect roommate is an urban legend told around circles of 20-somethings who have become disgruntled. I have cried on my family’s shoulders, and in turn have been cried upon. It was only in these past few weeks my sister, much to my delight, disposed of a loud, cluttered and cheap roommate.

In the world of cohabitation, no one is ever going to be perfect. Just try to remember one simple thing: would you be able to afford these digs on your own?

Gas, from pg. 2

gain from riding the San Diego Trolley to work.

“All the way around I benefit,” he said. “If more people would use public transportation, it would be a significant impact on the oil companies. Our lifestyle has changed because of the oil prices going up.”

Though high costs in gas discourage some from purchasing an automobile altogether, there are vehicles available for personal use on the depot.

For pleasure, work or emergency, Flexcars have set up special promotions and discounts for depot personnel and families.

“The worry of having your own vehicle will be left behind. We offset the cost of owning your own vehicle,” said Matt S. Enos, a Flexcar development director.

Through a fixed hourly rate, Flexcar provides means for commuters to drive themselves to their

destinations on their own schedules. Flexcar provides premium insurance, unlimited mileage and gas under hourly and monthly rate plans for reserved vehicles.

“The amount of money you spend on transportation with Flexcar is predictable,” said Enos. “It’s one bill.”

Even though gas prices continue to rise, options like MTIP and Flexcar are made available to allow affordable transportation to fit more suitably into the lifestyles of depot personnel.

Platoon 2090	Platoon 2087	Platoon 2085	Platoon 2086	Platoon 2089	Platoon 2091	Platoon 2090	Platoon 2089
COMPANY HONOR MAN Lance Cpl. J. R. Gamboa Carson, Calif. Recruited by Sgt. B. M. Bass	SERIES HONOR MAN Pfc. A. M. Reagan Evansdale, Iowa Recruited by Sgt. R. L. Walker	PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. M. T. Heggen Teoria, Ill. Recruited by Sgt. T. Bergschneider	PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. T. D. Adams Corpus Christi, Texas Recruited by Sgt. T. D. Yates	PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. E. E. Romero Chinovalle, Ariz. Recruited by Staff Sgt. H. C. Rodriguez	PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. S. K. Sugg Colorado Springs, Colo. Recruited by Staff Sgt. B. Potier	HIGH SHOOTER (238) Pfc. K. J. Lindgren Ham Lake, Minn. Recruited by Gunnery Sgt. J. Wilson	HIGH PFT (300) Pfc. J. Nunez San Diego Recruited by Staff Sgt. D. Inopiquez

FOX COMPANY



Company F recruits practice squad rushes at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. Recruits spend four weeks at Camp Pendleton for weapons and field training. Cpl. Dorian Gardner/Chevron

SECOND RECRUIT TRAINING  
BATTALION  
Commanding Officer  
Lt Col. V. A. Ary  
Chaplain  
Lt. Cdr. E. Pease  
Sergeant Major  
Sgt. Maj. T. L. Shatto  
Battalion Drill Master  
Gunnery Sgt. P. Duncan

COMPANY F  
Commanding Officer  
Capt. A. L. Smith  
Series First Sergeant  
1st Sgt. J. M. Hidalgo  
Company Corpsman  
Petty Officer 3rd Class  
M. Gonzalez

SERIES 2085  
Series Commander  
Capt. E. J. Keck  
Series Gunnery Sergeant  
Gunnery Sgt. J. L. Kappen

SERIES 2089  
Series Commander  
Capt. G. M. Colbert Jr.  
Series Gunnery Sergeant  
Gunnery Sgt. B. Clark III

PLATOON 2085  
Senior Drill Instructor  
Sgt. R. D. Fraser  
Drill Instructors  
Sgt. J. Mondloch  
Sgt. I. A. Ordaz

Pvt. A. L. Agushi

Pvt. J. P. Armitage  
Staff Sgt. E. Khanthasa  
\*Pfc. C. D. Barber  
Pvt. L. N. Barnard  
Pvt. D. A. Begay  
Pfc. D. H. Born  
Pfc. D. J. Boyer  
Pvt. M. J. Brazauskas  
Pfc. A. D. Brest  
Pvt. J. R. Brown  
Pvt. E. R. Bush  
Pvt. L. M. Cedillo  
Pfc. J. L. Charlier  
Pvt. B. R. Chatfield  
Pvt. A. I. Chavez  
Pvt. R. E. Christensen  
Pvt. J. A. Holler  
Pvt. C. A. Clark  
Pfc. A. W. Dewey  
Pvt. E. T. Duncan  
Pvt. A. Flores  
Pvt. A. M. Francis  
Pfc. B. J. Hancock  
Pfc. T. R. Haskell  
Pfc. M. R. Haven  
\*Pfc. D. L. Hefflin  
\*Pfc. M. T. Heggen  
Pfc. A. W. Dewey  
Pfc. S. K. Henry  
Pfc. M. Herrera  
Pfc. N. Lorenzini  
Pvt. P. Nam  
Pvt. S. E. Smith  
Pvt. L. L. Whiting  
Pvt. R. K. Wongwai

Pfc. T. D. Adams  
Pvt. I. M. Ahlstrom  
Pvt. E. R. Almeida  
Pvt. F. Arceo  
Pvt. G. Armenta  
Pvt. D. E. Bartholic  
Pvt. W. B. Beck  
Pvt. Q. Benezra  
Pvt. J. L. Black  
Pvt. R. W. Boggs  
Pvt. J. Chantrey  
Pvt. E. C. Choi  
Pvt. J. R. Davila  
\*Pfc. M. G. Hirsch Jr.  
Pvt. B. S. Holman  
Pvt. R. A. Jeub  
Pvt. M. R. Johnson  
Pfc. J. N. Jost  
Pvt. A. S. Kastner  
\*Pfc. J. I. Koelpien  
Pvt. J. W. Krebs  
Pvt. J. C. Lack  
Pvt. R. A. Lancaster  
Pvt. A. E. Leiva  
Pfc. C. M. Limberg  
Pvt. S. K. B. Lowder  
Pfc. I. D. Lowery  
Pvt. M. J. Lubinski  
Pfc. J. V. Martin  
Pfc. J. W. Matthews  
Pvt. J. N. Page  
Pvt. J. K. S. Waugh  
Pfc. K. S. Willis  
Pfc. M. D. Yocum  
Pvt. F. E. Zuniga

Drill Instructors  
Staff Sgt. E. Khanthasa  
Staff Sgt. W. R. Hill  
Staff Sgt. M. Sanchez

PLATOON 2087  
Senior Drill Instructor  
Staff Sgt. P. A. Valdez  
Drill Instructors  
Staff Sgt. A. J. Hawkins  
Staff Sgt. N. Viera  
Staff Sgt. J. Galvan

Pvt. G. J. Amick  
Pfc. C. G. Bratton  
Pvt. D. F. Brennan Jr.  
Pvt. P. J. Bullard  
Pvt. J. P. Burghart  
Pvt. J. H. Burks  
Pvt. K. B. Cameron  
Pvt. L. F. Carrasco Hernandez  
Pfc. E. A. Castromorales  
Pvt. J. A. Cattell  
Pfc. R. A. Chilton  
\*Pfc. M. Cisneros  
Pfc. A. J. Coblenz  
Pfc. R. A. Cox  
Pfc. R. L. Damer II  
Pvt. S. P. Ellis  
Pfc. C. A. Featherston  
Pfc. D. W. Grabinski  
Pvt. D. J. Juarez Sanchez  
Pvt. S. A. Laird  
\*Pfc. D. S. Lampinen  
Pvt. K. J. Lewis  
Pfc. P. Montoya Munoz  
Pfc. E. A. Murillo  
Pvt. J. A. Netko  
Pvt. J. L. Ortiz Melara  
Pvt. K. W. Pace  
Pfc. P. E. Pineda  
\*Pfc. A. M. Reagan

PLATOON 2086  
Senior Drill Instructor  
Staff Sgt. D. M. Lowery

Pfc. L. J. Zweck  
Pfc. P. L. Conklin

Pvt. A. S. Roberts  
Pvt. J. Tielebein  
Pvt. M. A. Tronias  
Pvt. T. R. Webster  
Pvt. S. D. Wheeler Jr.  
Pvt. E. R. Zimmerman  
Pvt. C. L. Heffran  
Pvt. E. A. Hernandez

PLATOON 2089  
Senior Drill Instructor  
Sgt. S. P. Engs  
Drill Instructors  
Sgt. J. A. Espinoza  
Sgt. W. W. Davis  
Sgt. A. Brown

Pfc. D. A. Brach  
Pvt. D. C. Bretz  
Pvt. R. G. Bruns  
Pvt. T. A. Cattell  
Pvt. Z. S. Gallenberg  
Pvt. C. J. Jones  
\*Pfc. R. J. Kahng  
Pvt. C. Luevanos Jr.  
Pvt. J. Martinek  
Pfc. J. A. McBride  
Pvt. P. J. Mead  
Pvt. M. A. Newman  
Pvt. H. C. Nguyen  
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Pvt. G. R. Spivey  
Pfc. M. J. Tansey III  
Pvt. Q. S. Tran  
Pvt. R. P. Urbanek  
Pvt. B. M. Vanasten  
Pvt. A. P. Villegas

PLATOON 2090  
Senior Drill Instructor  
Staff Sgt. M. A. Betancourt  
Drill Instructors  
Sgt. O. P. Schiess  
Staff Sgt. P. D. Livingston  
Staff Sgt. C. Casias

Pvt. B. V. Alvarez  
Pvt. R. J. Dolan  
\*Pfc. C. P. Faulkner  
Pvt. J. L. Fenton  
\*Lance Cpl. J. R. Gamboa  
Pvt. W. Garcia  
Pvt. T. L. Gilson  
Pfc. R. C. Goddard  
Pfc. A. Gonzalez  
Pvt. M. J. Harshbarger  
Pvt. J. R. Hiatt  
Pfc. P. W. Hill  
Pvt. A. G. Hooks Jr.  
Pvt. S. M. Hooks

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Pvt. G. M. Roskens  
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Pvt. N. E. Robinson Jr.

Pfc. A. D. Hughes  
Pfc. C. J. Johnston  
Pvt. J. R. Justice  
Pvt. D. V. Khachaturov  
Pvt. K. J. Kerst  
Pvt. R. C. Kiple  
Pvt. C. A. Koone  
Pvt. J. C. Lambert  
Pfc. A. M. Leyden  
Pvt. K. J. Lindgren  
Pfc. J. A. Martinez Jr.  
Pfc. B. K. Miller Jr.  
Pfc. J. S. Moncrieff  
\*Pfc. A. D. Montes  
Pvt. P. R. Moore  
Pvt. R. R. Morgan  
Pvt. S. Mosqueda  
Pvt. W. R. Neilson  
Pvt. A. J. Paccia  
Pfc. P. W. Ream  
Pvt. T. A. Rogers  
Pvt. M. D. Velasquez Fonseca  
Pvt. A. E. Wilson

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Pvt. W. R. Neilson  
Pvt. A. J. Paccia  
Pfc. P. W. Ream  
Pvt. T. A. Rogers  
Pvt. M. D. Velasquez Fonseca  
Pvt. A. E. Wilson

Pfc. A. D. Hughes  
Pfc. C. J. Johnston  
Pvt. J. R. Justice  
Pvt. D. V. Khachaturov  
Pvt. K. J. Kerst  
Pvt. R. C. Kiple  
Pvt. C. A. Koone  
Pvt. J. C. Lambert  
Pfc. A. M. Leyden  
Pvt. K. J. Lindgren  
Pfc. J. A. Martinez Jr.  
Pfc. B. K. Miller Jr.  
Pfc. J. S. Moncrieff  
\*Pfc. A. D. Montes  
Pvt. P. R. Moore  
Pvt. R. R. Morgan  
Pvt. S. Mosqueda  
Pvt. W. R. Neilson  
Pvt. A. J. Paccia  
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Pvt. K. J. Ker





Headquarters Company’s Sgt. Michael J. Gonzales rounds first base in the Headquarters Co. one-run win Tuesday against 2nd Recruit Training Battalion. Cpl. Dorian Gardner/Chevron photos

# HEADQUARTERS BEATS 2ND BN.

BY CPL. DORIAN GARDNER  
*Chevron staff*

Marines from Headquarters Company defeated 2nd Recruit Training Battalion Tuesday 13-12 in the fourth week of the Commanding General’s Cup softball season here.

After playing the Provost Marshall’s Office in their first game Tuesday, Headquarters Co. started the next game with a bang.

“As long as our team goes with their heads in the game, we play well,” said Cpl. Harvey J. Vinklarek II, Headquarters pitcher. “We may take a minute to warm up, but once we get there, we are good.”

Separating themselves early on, Headquarters scored 9 runs in the first inning while denying 2nd Bn. all opportunities of scoring.

Second Bn. was able to put a run on the board during the 2nd inning while Headquarters was dealing with disaster.

Cpl. Tomas E. Robles, Headquarters’ first baseman, pulled his right hamstring while rounding second base. After hearing a pop come from his leg, Robles knew it wasn’t something he could shake off.

The team endured, placing Robles in

the catcher’s position and Cpl. Marisol Melendez at second base. A forced position rotation left Headquarters out of place and 2nd Bn. took full advantage.

“We got one run and that was all it took to motivate us,” said Cpl. Orlando Munoz, 2nd Bn. first baseman. “Seeing the players sacrifice their bodies for the game made other players step up.”

Scoring five runs in the third inning and six in the fourth, 2nd Bn. could taste its victory, but that is where it stopped.

Team chemistry on the field fell into play as Headquarters kept 2nd Bn.’s progress down to base hits. A pop fly ball caught by Headquarters ended the game and sealed the narrow victory.

Coming away with a one-run victory wasn’t as sweet as a blowout to some Headquarters players.

“We are a better team than what the score showed at the end of the game,” said Vinklarek.

Players on both sides walked off the diamond knowing the game was not played to its full potential.

With a bench full of talented players, 2nd Bn.’s Staff Sgt. Randy Revert said he thinks more practice with the same players could lock a spot for them in the championship game.

Not long after 2nd Bn. lost its second game by one run to the Coast Guard, Medical lost to Recruiter’s School by more than 20 runs.



Staff Sgt. Randolph N. Revert scores a run for 2nd Recruit Training Battalion.